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Projects to be funded from the resources proposed under section 33. Development account, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Report of the Secretary-General

Contents

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	Introduction	1–3	3
II.	Proposals	4–128	3
A.	Capacity-building in strategic planning and management of natural resources in Asia and the Pacific (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)	4–11	3
B.	Training programme on addiction rehabilitation and drug prevention in the workplace for Asia and the Pacific (United Nations International Drug Control Programme)	12–17	8
C.	Capacity-building to improve water management and accelerate investments in the water sector (Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the regional commissions)	18–24	12
D.	Capacity-building in decision-making for sustainable development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	25–30	17
E.	Capacity-building for promoting gender equality in the African countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	31–41	22
F.	Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia (Economic Commission for Europe and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)	42–50	28

99-36423 (E) 031299

G.	Strengthening regional capacities for statistical development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	51–58	34
H.	Capacity-building and institutional development for equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	59–70	39
I.	Enhancing the economic and social development policy capabilities in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)	71–76	45
J.	Development of a collaborative framework for integrated environmental assessments and reporting for West Africa (United Nations Environment Programme)	77–82	49
K.	Sustainable waste management for African countries (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)	83–90	54
L.	Urban pollution of superficial and groundwater aquifers in Africa (United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT)/Economic Commission for Africa)	91–99	58
M.	Capacity-building and policy networking for sustainable resource-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development/United Nations University)	100–105	63
N.	Enhancing the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition for effective integration in the Multilateral Trading System (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	106–111	68
O.	Capacity-building for debt sustainability analysis (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	112–121	73
P.	Capacity-building for diversification and commodity-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	122–127	77
Annex			
	List of projects proposed to be funded from the development account in the biennium 2000-2001		82

I. Introduction

1. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 included $13,065,000 for Section 33, Development account, the same level as for the biennium 1998-1999. It was indicated in the proposed programme budget that detailed proposals on the use of this amount would be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, based on the decision that the General Assembly would be taking in respect of the modalities for operating the account.

2. At its fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly in resolution 54/15 of 29 October 1999 decided to establish a special multi-year account for supplementary development activities based on the priority objectives of the approved medium-term plan and provided the guidelines for the operations of this account. As a result of this decision of the General Assembly, the projects described below are proposed to be financed from the resources included under section 33 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. It is recalled that the General Assembly had appropriated an amount of $13,065,000 under section 34. Development account of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. By its resolutions 53/220A of 7 April 1999 and 53/220B of 8 June 1999, the General Assembly approved the financing of seven projects from the resources under section 34. The total cost estimates of the seven projects amounted to $12,945,000, thus leaving a balance of $120,000. It is now proposed to utilize this balance of $120,000 for the 16 new projects proposed to be financed from the resources included under section 33 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. Consequently, the total cost estimates for the 16 proposals described below amount to $13,185,000.

3. The proposals have been formulated on the basis of the recommendations and guidelines provided by the General Assembly. Once approved, their implementation will be undertaken by the individual entities indicated below.

II. Proposals

A. Capacity-building in strategic planning and management of natural resources in Asia and the Pacific (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

Objectives

4. The objective of the proposal is to strengthen the capacity of the developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region in strategic planning and management of natural resources development and environmental protection.

Background

5. The proposal is derived from a priority identified at the 19th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGASS): the need to encourage local governments to be proactive through development of strategic plans. The approach would help maintain continuity and consistency in policies and strategies through capacity building, community participation and South-South cooperation.

6. ESCAP over the years has initiated a number of working arrangements with subregional organizations, such as the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Interstate Council on the Problems of theArab Sea Basin, and with environmental cooperation programmes such as the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), as well as with some non-governmental organizations. Since 1994, ESCAP has been providing leadership in the Regional Inter-agency Committee in Asia and the Pacific for promoting close regional cooperation and co-ordination of activities of the member agencies. Through the project, strategic planning and natural resource management will be developed at the regional level to be shared using regional and subregional networks and applied to country-specific situations. The project will train a core group of government officials within the networks to enable them to sustain the process of strategic planning and management.

7. ESCAP has the necessary multidisciplinary expertise in the areas of environment and natural resources management and has a comparative advantage to undertake the implementation of such projects in a cost-effective way.

Relation to medium-term plan

8. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under programme 15 (Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific), particularly subprogramme 15.4. Environment and natural resources development.

Expected accomplishments

9. The implementation of the project will strengthen existing networks of expertise on environmental protection and natural resources management. This will be achieved through (1) developing or adopting guidelines to be used as tools to strengthen national capacities in strategic planning and management of natural resources development and environmental protection; (2) forming a core group of experts in the networks who can sustain the process of strategic planning and resource management, and (3) assisting developing countries in using these networks and in formulating national programmes of action.

Duration

10. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2004.

Activities

11. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Development of a draft framework for guidelines on strategic planning and management of environment and natural resources and identifying themes and terms of reference of national studies to be undertaken by experts from selected existing networks and international resource persons;

(b) Conducting (10) country studies in collaboration with concerned networks as inputs to the preparation of the guidelines;

(c) Organization of a regional workshop, to undertake a review and to finalize/adopt the guidelines followed by publishing and disseminating the guidelines;

(d) Organization of five regional workshops to train experts of the existing networks.

(e) Organization of 15 national workshops (5 in each area, i.e., for environment, water and energy) to train the trainers of the focal points of the networks and national officials on application of the guidelines.

Resource requirements:

(In US$)

Project A. Capacity-building in strategic planning and management of natural resources in Asia and the Pacific (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

Expert services for the drafting and finalisation of the guidelines on strategic planning and management of natural resources and the environment (estimated six workmonths of international expertise at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (a)).	48,000
Expert services for the preparation of country studies on the application of the guidelines at the national level (estimated 15 workmonths at $3,000 per month). (In support of activity (a)).	45,000
Organization of a regional 4-day expert group meeting of 20 participants to finalise and adopt the guidelines for publication and dissemination. (In support of activity (c)).	60,000
Contractual services to be provided by ten cooperating institutions in the network to undertake country studies as inputs for the preparation of the guidelines on strategic planning and management of natural resources (estimated at $10,000 per one institutional contract). (In support of activity (b)).	100,000
Contractual services to implement 15 national training workshops on the implementation of the guidelines (estimated at $10,000 per workshop). (In support of activity (e)).	150,000
General operating expenses relating to communications, editing and publishing of the guidelines, supplies and material. (In support of activities (a) to (e)).	35,000
Organization of five 5-day regional workshops to train experts of the existing network form the five sub-regions of Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the guidelines (estimated at $60,000 per workshop with 20-25 participants per workshop). (In support of activity (d)).	300,000

Summary:

Expert services	93,000
Ad hoc expert group meeting	60,000
Contractual services	250,000
General operating expenses	35,000
Grant, fellowship and contribution	300,000
Total	738,000

B. Training programme on addiction rehabilitation and drug prevention in the workplace for Asia and the Pacific (United Nations International Drug Control Programme)

Objectives

12. The project aims at establishing an institutional framework and technical capability at the regional level to conduct training on addiction rehabilitation and drug prevention in the workplace. Direct beneficiaries will be policy makers, programme planners and practitioners from Asia/Pacific countries.

Background

13. Most countries of the region accord higher priority to reducing the supply of drugs rather than to reduce demand. However, in recent years there has been an increased focus on demand reduction. Despite this new trend, the continuum of services required for effective demand reduction remains incomplete, with the area of most neglect being rehabilitation. In addition, not enough attention is paid to drug prevention in the workplace programmes to reach workers, their families and the community. The situation is further exacerbated by the fact that rehabilitation workers lack adequate knowledge and expertise. There is an urgent need to redress the shortcomings of rehabilitation at all levels, i.e., policy development, programme planning and service delivery. National capacity must be strengthened to support policy and programming framework which are conducive to effective service delivery.

Relation to medium-term plan

14. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under programme 13 (International drug control), particularly subprogramme 13.3 (Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse).

Expected accomplishments

15. The implementation of the project will result in establishing capacity at the National Centre for Drug Research in Malaysia to organize and conduct training courses in addiction rehabilitation and prevention for countries in the region. It will also improve access to

rehabilitation and prevention technology, information sources and training through Internet and put in place a network of institutional focal points and experts in rehabilitation and workplace prevention programme development. The project will enhance capability at the national level to organize training courses in addiction rehabilitation and workplace prevention, and improve rehabilitation services as well as workplace prevention programmes, and make available a greater number of resource material and resource persons for training purposes both at the regional and national levels.

Duration

16. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2003.

Activities

17. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) A regional focal point institution will develop curricula for introductory, advanced and specialised courses and identify faculty members. Study and training materials will be prepared for each course. Curricula and resource materials will be adapted for distance-learning courses to be offered through the Internet;

(b) Through a promotional programme, project partners will publicise the courses. Criteria for participation and procedures for application will be provided;

(c) A network of national alumni from an earlier UNDCP/ILO project will be mobilised to promote the project and to assist in the review of applications. The earlier trainers, together with newly trained participants, will be encouraged to sustain an electronic network for exchange of relevant information;

(d) Introductory courses in the advanced Training of Trainers courses will be organized. This activity will be complemented by a commitment of national organizations to provide financial and administrative support to the organization of national training courses;

(e) A specialized course will be offered on any prevention in the workplace bringing together industry as well as community representatives;

(f) Other specialised training courses will include programmes for drug prevention in the workplace; relapse prevention strategies; vocational rehabilitation development; effective programme management; and adaptive therapeutic community.

Resource requirements:

(In US $)

Project B. Training programme on addiction rehabilitation and drug prevention in the workplace for Asia and the Pacific (United Nations International Drug Control Programme)

Expert services, at the international level, to produce an effective training programme applicable at the regional and national levels (estimated at three workmonths at $7,000 per month). (In support of activity (a)).	21,000
Travel of staff to monitor and evaluate the programme (anticipated 11 missions). (In support of activities (a) to (e)).	22,000
Contractual services for the training co-ordinator and trainers for specialised courses on drug prevention, relapse prevention strategies and vocational rehabilitation development. (In support of activity (d) and (e)).	99,000
Contractual services for the development of training materials (six modules at $12,000 each). (In support of activity (a)).	72,000
General operating expenses relating to supplies, preparation of reports and other miscellaneous materials and services. (In support of activities (a) to (e)).	8,700
Acquisition of computer equipment related to the extension of the project. (In support of activities (a) to (c)).	15,000
Group training (four 3 to 4-day workshops at an estimated $65,500 per workshop with 30-35 participants each). (In support of activities (d) and (e)).	262,000
Grants to selected institutions involved at the national level on drug rehabilitation programmes.	50,000

Summary

Expert services	21,000
Travel	22,000
Contractual services	171,000
General operating expenses	8,700
Equipment	15,000
Training	262,000
Grants	50,000
Total	**549,700**

C. Capacity-building to improve water management and accelerate investments in the water sector (Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Regional Commissions)

Objectives

18. The objective of the project is to develop national capacities that will promote the development and implementation of national water strategies in developing countries at local levels. That promotion of integrated water development and management, will be carried out through (i) a network of national capacities; and (ii) a Water Virtual Learning Centre in support of national capacities, with regard to water supply in underserved areas (rural and suburban) and to water resources management of shared river basins.

Background

19. There is an urgent need in developing countries to improve water resources management and water services, and to accelerate sustainable investments in the water sector, at the pace of demographic trends. Policy development, networking of national experts, information exchange and dissemination of proven experiences are essential for the implementation of UN conferences recommendations related to water issues. Despite current efforts and initiatives in the water sector, many barriers need to be removed in order to accelerate sustainable investments. New, concrete support is needed at the local level.

20. Distance learning and exchange of information electronically can contribute to capacity-building in water management and sustainable water investments. These activities can also provide a framework for South-South cooperation. Through a network of national institutions and on-going projects of technical cooperation in the water sector, DESA, along with other international partners, can organize and facilitate exchange of capacities, experiences and relevant information with potential multiplier effects.

Relation to medium-term plan

21. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, in particular subprogramme 28.4 (Sustainable Development) of Programme 28, Economic and social affairs.

Expected accomplishments

22. The project will facilitate water information exchange and training through consultations; establish a network of national, basin and local institutions involved in the water sector; enhance an exchange of information and experience between five International River Basin Organizations in order to develop an adaptable basin-wide methodology and mobilise funding for sustainable development programmes; and lead to the creation of a UN Water Virtual Learning Centre to train government officials and trainers, as well as educate actors/users, public and private, in the water delivery chain.

Duration

23. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

24. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Identification of country needs, of relevant capacities available in the region and of constraints through two international workshops organized in Africa with ECA, and in Western Asia with ESCWA. Identification of priority areas and of strategic approaches for distance learning with local multiplier effects through existing training services or on-going activities;

(b) Creation of a regional electronic network, including the provision of equipment, involving five International River Basin Organizations, fifteen national focal points, fifteen national sub-basin agencies, and five relevant local initiatives;

(c) Preparation of analysis, training materials and guidelines in order to develop training programmes guided by distance learning. Study of methodology for the local implementation of training modules. Organization of thematic database for the regional electronic network. Research and pilot activities on relevant indicators concerning water resources development and management. Production of training materials (CD-ROM, Videos, Guidelines) on priority themes. Translation of training materials (French/English);

(d) Providing training for trainers: (i) for the mobilization of various local actors to sustain water supply and sanitation programmes in underserved areas (rural and suburban); and (ii) for the promotion of water

management with an integrated River-Basin Approach. (i) and (ii) will be executed through the organization of one regional and fifteen national training workshops, bringing together relevant specialists in existing training institutions.

(e) Creation and functioning of a Virtual Learning Centre in support of existing national training centres and with the assistance of international specialised academic institutions.

Resource requirements:

(In US $)

Project C. Capacity-building to improve water management and accelerate investments in the water sector (Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Regional Commissions)

General temporary assistance to organise and manage on a daily basis the Virtual Water Learning Centre, provide substantive support to the field activities and assist in the production of training materials (27.5 workmonths at $8,000). (In support of activity (c) and (e)).	220,000
General temporary assistance to provide substantive support to the training centres, and other relevant regional organisations in integrated water development and management. (Estimated 23 workmonths at $8,000). (In support of activities (c), (d) and (e)).	182,000
General temporary assistance relating to highly specialised expertise in the form of short-term advisory services (estimated at $10,000 per month), for a period of 12 months. (In support to all activities).	120,000
Expert services for the preparation of two regional assessment studies, one in Africa and the other in Western Asia, on needs, concerns and available capabilities of each member States in the regions on water management (estimated six consultants would be required for each assessment study at a total cost of $40,000 per study). (In support of activity (a)).	80,000
Organization of two 4-day regional ad hoc expert group meetings, one in Africa and the other in Western Asia, (25 participants each) to review the assessment studies and recommend strategies and modalities for the development of a regional network for capacity-building (estimated $50,000 for each expert group meeting). (In support of activity (a)).	100,000
Organization of one 5-day expert group meeting of 10 participants to review progress in the implementation of the African programme, including an evaluation of tested methodologies and training modules with recommendations for future activities. (In support of activity (a)).	50,000
Travel for monitoring and assessment missions of international, regional and subregional personnel (anticipated 12-15 missions). (In support to all activities).	89,500
Contractual services related to the production of training materials – CD-ROMS, videos and manuals and translations. (In support of activity (c)).	100,000

Contractual services for the establishment of the Virtual Water Learning Centre at the United Nations Headquarters: feasibility studies estimated at $30,000, development of specific tools, tests, training and maintenance at an estimated cost of $140,000. (In support of activity (d)).	170,000
Contractual services related to the establishment of 15 national focal points to coordinate network activities at the national level with the Virtual Water Learning Centre at United Nations Headquarters including training activities, newsletter production, and other related activity studies. (In support of activities (c) and (e)).	97,800
General operating expenses related to communications, supplies and other miscellaneous services.	10,000
Supplies and materials expenses related to the organisation of 15 national training workshops for trainers at an estimated cost of $6,000 per workshop. (In support of activity (d)).	90,000
Acquisition of equipment and related software and services for the Virtual Water Learning Centre and for a regional electronic network (40 computers, two servers, modems, softwares, Internet local services). In support of activity (b) and (e)).	180,000
Acquisition of equipment for three training centres located in the North, West and Central Africa at a cost of $17,000 per centre. (In support of activity (c)). (multimedia and video-conference equipments)	51,000
Fellowships and study tours for national and regional personnel (15-20 fellowships/study tours). (In support of activity (d)).	109,700

Summary:

General temporary assistance	522,000
Expert services	80,000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	150,000
Travel	89,500
Contractual services	367,800
General operating expenses	10,000
Supplies and materials	90,000
Acquisition of equipment	231,000
Grants, fellowships and contributions	109,700
Total	**1,650,000**

D. Capacity-building in decision-making for sustainable development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objectives

25. The objective of the project is to promote a sustainable development framework for South-South cooperation and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) which will assist in devising sustainable strategies responsive to economic and environmental vulnerability of island states; in promoting decision-making for sustainable development through the integration of gender specific, social, economic, environmental, demographic and geographic databases as common platforms for the development of management information systems; and facilitating the preparation of national reports consistent with Agenda 21 recommendations.

Background

26. The organizational framework for and means of access to updated, accurate information on the social, economic and environmental characteristics of many developing countries is still limited, particularly in the context of sustainable development planning. Compounding this situation is the lack or insufficiency of exchange of information between and within institutions, which can lead to duplication of efforts, inefficiency in data collection and processing, and lack of access to information. Information services and communication technologies can be beneficial in reverting this situation, often ensuring a higher degree of co-ordination among the different public and private agents of development.

Relationship to medium-term plan

27. The proposal is consistent with the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under Programme 28 (Economic and social affairs), subprogramme 28.7 (Sustainable development), and 28.5 (Statistics).

Expected accomplishments

28. The implementation of the project will lead to the establishment and enhancement of institutional linkages and information flows between key sustainable development stakeholder organizations in Barbados and Maldives; strengthening of the subregional capacity in the Caribbean in the assessment and design of national

information systems consistent with, and responsive to sustainable development objectives, and in the utilisation of information systems including the identification, formulation and implementation phases of a co-ordinated multi-purpose information system, consistent with the requirements of the national sustainable development strategy and objectives; setting-up a dynamic environmental, socio-economic information systems database in both Barbados and the Maldives; and setting-up of two Websites where indicators and aggregated information on environment, population and social- and economic development related to SIDs activities can be shared.

Duration

29. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

30. The project will implement a programme of "twinning" between Barbados and Maldives with institutional support from Costa Rica. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Conducting of a preliminary mission to the Maldives, consisting of one consultant from Barbados and one from Costa Rica, to identify ways and means to improve information systems for decision-making related to sustainable development indicators, with specific emphasis on developing joint cooperation between Maldives and Barbados, drawing on institutional experience of Costa Rica. Particular attention will be given to the economic, social and environmental vulnerability of small island developing states;

(b) Commissioning of two local Project Managers, one in Barbados and one in the Maldives to oversee the implementation of the projects at the local levels as well as to identify where institutional linkages can be established between Barbados, the Maldives and Costa Rica for their mutual benefit in particular in their efforts to improve information systems for decision-making through joint capacity-building efforts;

(c) Undertaking of a training programme to build capacity in Barbados and in the Maldives, in the assessment and design of national information systems consistent with and responsive to sustainable development objectives;

(d) Undertaking of assessments by an

Information Systems Expert to acquire a detailed understanding of the country's capacity related to information collection, flow and access and co-ordination at the national level;

(e) Identification of 25 candidates from relevant organizations, including national and local government, NGO and private sector to participate in a local training programme in the utilisation of information systems and identification of areas of joint cooperation between the Maldives and Barbados;

(f) Establishment of a database in Barbados and the Maldives providing access to information and data associated with the national set of sustainable development indicators, providing a common platform for the management of information systems and facilitating the preparation of national reports consistent with Agenda 21 requirements;

(g) Establishment of websites containing indicators for and aggregated information on environment, population and social and economic development of SIDs activities, for the Maldives and Barbados.

Resource requirements:
(In US$)

Project D. Capacity- building for decision-making in sustainable development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

General temporary assistance relating to two specialists experts: one in Barbados and the other in Maldives to serve as field managers supervising the implementation of activities at the national level (estimated 12 workmonths for one field supervisor at a cost of $24,000). (In support of activities (b), (c), (d), and (e)).	48,000
Expert services at the international level to undertake an assessment mission to Maldives and make recommendations to improve the information system for decision-making related to sustainable development indicators and the development of joint co-operation between Maldives and Barbados (estimated two workmonths at $14,000 per month, including travel). (In support of activity (a)).	28,000
Expert services at the local level to assist in providing national assessments in Barbados and Maldives on information systems for national decision-making (estimated two local consultants for one month each at a cost of $4,200). (In support of activity (a)).	8,400
Travel expenses of Headquarters staff to monitor and evaluate the field programmes in Barbados and Maldives (anticipated four missions). (In support of activities (a) to (g)).	8,000
Contractual services to establish the databases on the National Information Systems and Internet sites on Small Island Developing States activities. (In support of activity (f)).	60,000
General operating expenses including supplies and materials and communications. (In support of activities (a) to (g)).	8,000
Acquisition of equipment, such as network servers, network installation components, desktop hardware, and Internet connections for the field operations, one in Barbados and the other in Maldives (estimated at a cost of $14,000 each). (In support of activity (f)).	28,000
Organization of two 5-day national workshops, one in Barbados and the other in Maldives (25 participants on the utilisation of information system for decision-making on sustainable development. (In support of activity (e)).	80,000

Fellowships/study tours for three national experts, one for Barbados and the other in the utilisation of information systems and areas of joint co-operation at a notable international training facility (estimated at $10,500 per expert). (In support of activity (c)).	31,600

Summary

General temporary assistance	48,000
Expert services	36,400
Travel	8,000
Contractual services	60,000
General operating expenses	8,000
Equipment	28,000
Grants, fellowships	111,600
Total	**300,000**

E. Capacity-building for promoting gender equality in the African countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objective

31. The objectives of the project are to enhance the capacity of national machineries related to ensuring the advancement of women and mainstreaming of the gender perspective; and to strengthen capacities of women in decision-making in the public sector, in particular, by increasing women's ability to participate in and have influence over the policy-making process. The project aims at strengthening existing national machineries and establishing machineries where they do not exist.

32. The project will contribute to strengthening of cooperation among national machineries in the region, reinforcing South/South networking and creating opportunities to learn from international experience. Regional resources will play a crucial role in the regional/national needs assessment in exchange of information and in developing country specific proposals for capacity building of national machineries related to women's participation in the public sector.

Background

33. The Beijing Platform for Action called upon Governments to transform national machineries into central policy coordinating units to support gender mainstreaming in all government policies and programmes.

34. Mainstreaming of a gender perspective is not feasible without achieving the balance of women and men in decision-making that accurately reflects the composition of the society. The active participation of women is also an important condition to establish the transparent and accountable government and public administration required for achieving the goals of development.

35. While the existing national machineries vary considerably in terms of mandates, location, composition and resources, they all face problems of marginalization of women's issues and programmes; no access to the national decision-making level; lack of information and statistical data as well as human and financial resources. There is also a need to establish

better linkages with line ministries, other government agencies, civil society, women's NGOs and the international community.

36. Given the cross-cutting nature of the issue of equality and gender in development, there is an urgent need to assist the African countries in establishing national machineries or in strengthening the existing ones and to promote women's participation at all levels of decision-making by providing overall support and training, particularly to women in the public service at national and local levels.

Relation to medium-term plan

37. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium term plan, under program 28 (economic and social affairs), subprogramme 28.8 (public administration and finance and development) and subprogramme 29.2 (gender issues and advancement of women).

Expected accomplishments

38. The implementation of the project will facilitate the establishment of new national machineries through elaboration of country-specific profiles (3-5 countries); strengthen the capacity of existing national machineries and enhance their self-reliance in compliance with the recommendations of the Beijing Platform for Action through training and the elaboration of guidelines and manuals; increase the participation of women in policy-making bodies through career-advancement programmes, training in decision-making, leadership, administrative reform and management of change. This will facilitate women's upward mobility and advancement in national executive, legislative, judicial bodies and local administrations.

39. Assist countries in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW. It will improve national planning through mainstreaming a gender perspective and to lead to the advancement of women in the region. The attainment of these accomplishments will be evaluated through the feedback from participating representatives from the national machineries of the selected countries.

Duration

40. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

41. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Assessment of existing problems and conditions in the region with a focus on national machineries and women's participation in decision-making. The needs assessment report will be presented to the country representatives at a regional meeting;

(b) Assistance in the elaboration of country-specific profiles on the national machinery (in 3-5 countries).);

(c) Provision of advisory services and technical assistance in the preparation of national strategies on strengthening the capacity of institutional mechanisms for women: conduct training programmes through a series of workshops and seminars;

(d) Preparation of guidelines and manuals for the national machineries, including the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW;

(e) Assistance to the national machinery through training to improve the collection of data disaggregated by sex, including the identification of gaps in data requirements;

(f) Organization of leadership training courses for women at the managerial level (at least in five countries) which will focus on women as change agents for institutional development, and of strengthening of governance partnership;

(g) Organization of task force from the representatives of the national machineries to facilitate the intraregional cooperation and exchange of information on the project activities;

(h) Preparation and conduct of a regional meeting to evaluate the implementation of national strategies for capacity building of machineries and improvement of women's participation in decision-making sphere.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project E. Capacity-building for promoting gender equality in the African countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Expert services for the preparation of a needs assessment report for the African region, with the focus on the issues of national machinery, and women's participation in decision-making (estimated four workmonths of international Expert services at $10,000 per month; and eight workmonths of regional/national Expert services at $5,000 per/month). (In support of activity (a), (b) and (e)).	80,000
Expert services (estimated eight workmonths of international expertise, at $10,000 per month; and 10 workmonths for subregional Expert services, estimated at $5,000 per month) to prepare guidelines, manuals and backstop the training activities of the project. (In support of activity (d) and (c)).	130,000
Expert services (10 workmonths, at $10,000 per month) to undertake an evaluation of existing gender statistics and indicators in selected countries, identify gaps in collecting gender disaggregated data and develop training materials and modules, and to conduct training for the representatives of national machineries. (In support of activity (e)).	100,000
Expert services for two workmonths of international Expert services (at $10,000 per month), and (five workmonths of national/regional Expert services (at $5,000 per month). (Expert services related to conduct of workshops for women-managers in the public sector.) (In support of activities (g) and (h)).	45,000
Expert services for the development of country-specific profiles of the national machineries (for 3-5 countries in the regions estimated at two workmonths of international Expert services at $10,000 per month, and four workmonths of regional, subregional Expert services at $5,000 per month). (In support of activity (b)).	40,000
Expert services for seven workmonths of international Expert services (estimated at $10,000 per work-month) and five months of regional/national Expert services (estimated at $5,000 per work-month). (In support of activity (f).	95,000
Organisation of two 3-day Ad hoc expert regional meetings to discuss the needs assessment report, its conclusions and recommendations and define the main	60,000

framework for the elaboration of national machineries profiles, and strategies to increase women's participation in decision-making. (estimated at $30,000 each, with 20 participants in each meeting). (In support of activity (a) and (b)).

Organisation of a final 3-day Ad hoc expert regional meeting (with 50 participants each), to evaluate the progress achieved in strengthening the capacity of national machineries in the region enhancing their role in implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW, improving the participation of women in decision-making at the national level. 100,000

Travel of staff relating to 10 missions to provide co-ordination backstopping and advisory support. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (g) and (h)). 35,000

Contractual services for editing, printing and the dissemination of the reports. (In support of activities (a) and (b), (c), (d), and (f). 20,000

Acquisition of computer equipment to support the intra-regional exchange of information among national machineries as well as with other intergovernmental agencies and women's NGOs and to facilitate the information networking through the Internet with the United Nations and other international organisations. (In support of activities (c), (e), and (h)). 103,500

Organisation of (i) three 4-day workshops, aimed at gender training of the government officials to raise awareness about gender issues and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW at $42,500 per workshop (20 participants each); (ii) four 5-day national workshops for the representation of national machineries and to enhance self-reliance of the national machineries in mainstreaming gender perspective into policies and programmes through negotiation skills, networking, media and publicity campaigns and resource mobilization at $30,000 per workshop, mobilisation; and (iii) one 4-day subregional/training workshop with 50 participants to exchange "the best practices and lessons learnt" (at an estimated cost of $60,000). (In support of activities (c) and (d)). 307,500

A five 4-day leadership training for workshops course for women-managers in the national public sector (estimated at $25,000 per meeting), for the total of 100 participants. 125,000

Summary

Expert services	490,000
Expert group meetings	160,000
Travel	35,000
Contractual services	20,000
Equipment	103,500
Grants, fellowships	432,500
Total	**1,241,000**

F. Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia (Economic Commission for Europe and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

Objectives

42. The objective of the project is to foster cooperation on energy and water resources related issues and enabling rational and effective use of energy and water resources in the economies of Central Asia. Thus, the project will help achieve such goals of the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) as: i) finding regional solutions to common priority problems in the fields that hinder economic and social development; and (ii) promoting region-wide economic and technical cooperation among the participating states and their integration into the world economy, and (iii) strengthening institutional capacity of the States and their public administrations by using available human and technical resources from the region.

43. The project is expected to assist the participating countries in implementing provisions of the Energy Charter Treaty and Energy Charter Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects, to which all five Central Asian countries are signatories.

Background

44. The problems in the region include high water consumption as well as inefficient water delivery. In addition, the pollution of waters causes transboundary threats to human health. Another problem is wasteful consumption of energy.

45. The United Nations, through this project, can play a catalytic and facilitating role in developing technical and negotiating capabilities in the five participating SPECA countries, with the view to establishing a framework of cooperation for sharing and more rational use of water and energy resources. The United Nations experience in the implementation of environmental conventions (on air, water, industrial accidents and environmental impact assessment), skills and capacity for training on efficient management of water and energy in industry and experience in establishing energy efficiency demonstration zones, provide both ECE and ESCAP with a competitive advantage for the execution of the project.

Relation to medium-term plan

46. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the Medium-Term Plan, under Programme 15 (Economic and Social development in Asia and the Pacific), subprogramme 15.5 (Environment and natural resources development programme) and Programme 16 (Economic development in Europe), Subprogrammes 16.1 (Environment) and 16.5 (Sustainable energy).

Expected accomplishments

47. The implementation of the project is expected to result in increased skills of national decision-makers and experts in a rational and efficient use of energy and water resources, increased ability of Member States concerned to engage in co-operative and negotiated approaches to solving transboundary resource issues, reduced pressure on the environment and improved health conditions in the subregion. Cooperation on sensitive water and energy issues, with strong involvement of the United Nations, will become an important element of conflict prevention in the area.

48. The accomplishments will be assessed by introduction of more realistic water and energy pricing policies; the accession of Member States to relevant regional conventions, conclusion of regional agreements on equitable water and energy sharing and commitment to establish and support five (one country each) energy and water efficiency demonstration projects.

Duration

49. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

50. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Assessment of the current situation, needs and concerns of regional character in the areas of water and energy. The findings will be discussed at a meeting of the SPECA Programme Working Group (PWG) on rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia and a strategy for fostering regional cooperation on energy and water resources issues will be developed. The PWG will systematically be advised on the implementation of the strategy. Another meeting of the PWG, to be held before the completion of the project, will consider the progress in the implementation of the project and propose follow-up actions to build upon its achievements;

(b) Development and implementation of training programmes for government officials and experts of the five countries of Central Asia. The training will focus on modern water and energy management and conservation on the basis of economic instruments, legal frameworks, negotiating techniques and strategic management, environmental impact assessment and public participation in environmental decision-making, based on the ECE convention, business planning and financial engineering for investment projects in the areas of water and energy;

(c) Provision of advisory services to interested countries on the issues related to regional cooperation on energy and water related issues;

(d) Upgrading national data collecting and processing facilities with appropriate equipment and software (about 20 national institutions in 5 countries) with the aim of strengthening existing national systems for collecting, processing and disseminating data and information on water and energy resources and their potential for regional cooperation;

(e) Capacity building for regional cooperation on water and energy issues through strengthening of the SPECA Programme Working Group (PWG) on rational and effective use of energy and water resources in Central Asia. Establishing its data bank and communication linkages with the national information systems on water and energy resources;

(f) Establishing pilot demonstration projects in the areas of energy and water efficiency and related health issues, to promote efficient and socially progressive energy and water saving technologies and social attitudes leading to the creation of energy efficiency zones. An Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zone is a city-scale project, a town, district, or limited area, in which favorable conditions in every sphere are established to stimulate enterprise and initiative in market approaches to energy and resources efficiency, in the same way as an urban or regional economic development zones have been successfully established in western countries. It demonstrates, on a city-wide scale, the combined effect of energy and resources efficient technology; energy and resources pricing policy; favorable tariff structures; advisory services; information campaigns; metering, monitoring and controls; measurement of changes in emission levels; energy and resources audits; tax incentives, grants and government-guaranteed loan schemes; international technical assistance and trade development program. The intention is to replicate successful measures

nationally once proven on a limited scale and to undertake region-wide dissemination of the experience of demonstration projects.

Resource requirements
(In US $)

Project F. Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia (Economic Commission for Europe and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

Expert services to develop nine sets of training course programmes and materials (at an estimated cost of $10,000 per set). (In support of activity (b)).	90,000
Expert services of international experts to provide substantive support to the countries in the region in the implementation of the agreed programme of activities (estimated five workmonths at $10,000 per month, including travel). (In support of activities (c) and (d)).	50,000
Organization of two 3-day ad hoc expert meetings (of 24 participants each), one to develop a strategy and a plan of action and the other to review the implementation and develop follow-up activities (estimated at $20,000 each). (In support of activity (a)).	40,000
Travel to meetings of the Programme Working Group of the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia by international and regional staff for the backstopping, monitoring and evaluation of the activities (15 missions). (In support of activities (b), (c), (e), and (f)).	60,000
Travel of staff relating to 10 missions to provide coordination backstopping and advisory support. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (g) and (h)).	35,000
Contractual services to implement training workshops, assessment studies and elaboration of training materials (In support of activities (b), (d) and (e)).	185,340
Contractual services related to the establishment of two pilot demonstration projects on energy and water efficiency in two countries at an estimated cost of $135,000 per project. (In support of activity (f)).	270,000
General operating expenses related to the preparation and printing of training materials, manuals, reports, supplies and other materials. (In support of activity (a) to (f)).	59,660

Acquisition of equipment, such as network servers, network installation components, desktop hardware, and Internet connections for twenty national institutions at a cost of $12,000 each, (for each country set-up: three high-end personal computers with a minimum of peripherals, software, network and Internet services for 3 years. (In support of activity (d)).	240,000
Organization of regional training programme on transboundary and water and environmental management issues. This will take the form of 18 seminars of 5 days duration (estimated at $24,284 per seminar) and 15 seminars of 3 days duration (estimated at $18,860 per seminar) with 20 participants at each.	720,000

Summary

Expert services	140,000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	40,000
Travel	95,000
Contractual services	455,340
General operating expenses	59,660
Equipment	240,000
Training	720,000
Total	**1,750,000**

G. Strengthening regional capacities for statistical development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objectives

51. The project's objective is to develop a South-East Asian statistical information exchange network to strengthen capacities to respond to data needs in the subregion and to support regional training in the area of statistics. It will play a critical role in the region's statistical development and contribute to more standardized and comparable statistics in such areas as poverty, informal sector, national accounts, environment and gender issues. The network will link national statistical offices, regional research training institutions which deal with statistics; provide a forum for exchanging information and experiences in the development and application of concepts and methods for collection, analysis and dissemination of data; strengthen the capacity within the region to develop a common approach to basic data collection, analysis and dissemination; enhance the effectiveness of existing intercountry statistics programmes; strengthen regional capability to produce analytical reports on the state of the environment, trade, informal sector, employment, social conditions and gender; build through training and collaborative work, a pool of experts in the region, comprised of actively functional expert groups, organized by domains or issues; upgrade technology to create a platform for communication for data exchange and dissemination, including joint analytical regional publications, in print and electronic media.

Background

52. There have been significant improvements in national statistical systems in recent years. While availability of data has generally increased, there are still significant gaps in data on such critical issues as poverty, environment, informal sector, national accounts, and gender equality. There is also substantial variation in the level of statistical development among countries and within regions and subregions in the developing world. This, however, provides opportunities for South-South cooperation whereby countries with more established systems provide technical support, in areas of their strength, to other interested countries.

53. The recent global United Nations conferences and the adoption of standards and definitions for collecting and analyzing statistics call for statistical systems to adopt new methods and topics for data collection and

estimations. In a recent informal session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), involving panel presentations and discussions, the meeting stressed the need to develop a common set of indicators for the review of the global conferences follow-up. The meeting acknowledged that it would be necessary to adopt a regional approach to defining the relevant set and called for the involvement of countries themselves to ensure ownership of the resulting output. The meeting further stressed the need to build statistical capacity of countries through technical cooperation, training, and south-south cooperation.

Relation to medium-term plan

54. The proposal is consistent with the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan under Programme 28 (Economic and social affairs), subprogramme 28.5 (Statistics).

Expected accomplishments

55. The implementation of the project will enhance the regional and subregional capacities of South-East Asia in the area of statistical development, particularly by building a critical mass of expertise in specific domains of statistics; ensure the development of a common approach of countries of the region to data collection, analysis and dissemination; strengthen the region's capacity to produce analytical reports on major economic and social issues; and upgrade communication linkages among the region's national statistical offices.

Duration

56. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

57. The project will be executed by the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, jointly with the ASEAN Secretariat. The partners in the project will collaborate with ESCAP, other regional institutions, international agencies and bilateral donors supporting statistical development in the region.

58. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Assessment of needs and concerns of countries and relevant capacities available in the region, existing synergies and main constraints. The results of the assessment will be discussed in a meeting to define

the strategy, scope and modalities in the development of the regional network. Another meeting is proposed to be held before the completion of the project to review progress in the implementation of the network and consider subsequent actions to enhance the regional cooperation in statistical development;

(b) Development and conduct of training programmes, including a series of workshops on production, analysis and dissemination of statistics and indicators, focusing on topics to be selected by countries themselves (such as measurement of poverty, informal sector, implementation of the 1993 system of national accounts, trade and environment statistics);

(c) Organization of expert groups on topics to be identified by countries with the view to exchanging experiences and updating Member States on recent developments at the national, regional and international levels in respective fields of statistical development. This will contribute to building a critical mass of experts in specific domains of statistics;

(d) Establishing communication linkages within the intra-regional network, through providing and/or upgrading information technology and related equipment, between staff of the regional community Secretariat and national statistical offices, for more effective and user-friendly transmission of information, exchange of experiences and expertise;

(e) Undertaking specialised analysis on specific issues of concern to the region (e.g., poverty, informal sector, trade), highlighting common development experiences as well as differences; identifying weaknesses and suggesting areas for policy attention; determining good practices and ways to adapt them in other interested countries. Such analysis will contribute to a more efficient utilization of available data and help identify data gaps;

(f) Development of modules for basic statistical training programmes to be used by regional training institutions on a regular basis;

(g) Arranging for training fellowships for regional and national experts participating in a regional statistics training programme, and/or study tours for hands-on training in countries within the region;

(h) Provision of advisory services to interested countries in the field of basic data production and the related use of technology.

Resource requirements
(In US $)

Project G. Strengthening regional capacities for statistical development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

General temporary assistance to provide technical support to the ASEAN Secretariat on statistical issue (estimated at 20 workmonths at $8,750.per month). (In support of activities (a) to (h)).	175,000
Expert services, for assessment of needs, development of training materials and conducting training (estimated at 12 workmonths at $9,170 per month). (In support of activity (a)).	110,000
Organization of two 3-day expert group meetings on strategy, plan of action and review of progress on the project (estimated 15-18 participants per meeting) at a cost of $37,500 per meeting). (In support of activity (a)).	75,000
Organization of four 5-day expert group meetings (with 15 experts in each) including gender specialists for the development of methods, review of findings and regional reports (estimated at $70,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (b)).	280,000
Travel of staff and technical advisers to provide technical and administrative support to the activities in the field (estimated at $45,000 per year to support ten missions). (In support of activities (b), (c), and (g)).	90,000
General operating expenses for supplies, materials, printing of reports, reproduction and other miscellaneous services. (In support of activities (a) to (h)).	70,000
Acquisition of equipment, both hardware and software requirements, to update technology and improve the regional network with network servers, power supplies, desktop hardware components and Internet connectivity hardware. (In support of activity (d)).	200,000
Organization of four 2-week regional training workshops, of 20-22 participants each and 12 resource persons, to provide training in specific fields identified by countries (estimated at a	360,000

cost of $90,000 per workshop). (In support of activity (f)).

Fellowships and study tours (one-month study courses or two-week study tours for the total of 20-22 experts). (In support of activity (g)).	140,000

Summary

General temporary assistance	175,000
Expert services	110,000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	355,000
Travel	90,000
General operating expenses	70,000
Equipment	200,000
Grants, fellowships and contributions	500,000
Total	**1,500,000**

H. Capacity-building and institutional development for equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Objectives

59. The objective of the proposal is to strengthen national capacities and institutional capabilities related to further equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities in social life and development on the basis of equality.

60. Three priorities for policies and programmes to equalise opportunities for persons with disabilities are identified in General Assembly resolution 52/82, *Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century*: (a) accessibility, (b) social services and safety nets; and (c) employment and sustainable livelihoods.

61. The project's design draws on policy recommendations contained in the *World Programme of Action Concerning* Disabled *Persons* (A/37/351/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1); the "Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities" (General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex); and the Agenda for Development (General Assembly resolutions 51/240, annex).

62. The specific objectives of the project are:

(a) To strengthen and improve knowledge, skills and abilities of Governments, the non-governmental community and civil society to further a broad human rights approach to persons with disabilities;

(b) To promote and develop networks of centres and institutions for disability action;

(c) To establish and develop fully accessible Internet-based information services for use by interested countries concerning equalization of opportunities for all.

Background

63. Persons who are disabled as a consequence of intellectual, physical or sensory impairment may find their lives handicapped. Many persons with disabilities thus lead isolated and dependent lives. In addition to

barriers to the full exercise of their broad human rights, many persons with disabilities may experience barriers in meeting their obligations and in exercising their responsibilities as citizens in the societies in which they live. Participation is a basic right for all.

Relationship to the medium-term plan

64. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of programme 28 (Economic and social affairs), the medium-term plan under subprogramme 28.3 (Social policy and development).

Expected accomplishments

65. It is expected that the project will produce prototyping and decentralised pilot action with emphasis on sub-regional and regional levels – three principal sets of catalytic and innovative products for disability action: (i) multi-lingual training and resource materials, including interactive media, related to the three priority areas for action to further equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities; (ii) an international network of Internet-based information services to serve as accessible gateways for equalization of opportunities for all and to support thereby efforts by civil society to further equalization of opportunities for all; and (iii) fully accessible database on international norms and standards to support a dialogue among interested parties to promote a broad human rights framework for persons with disabilities.

Duration

66. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

67. The project will be implemented by the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

68. The project's activities will aim at capacity-building through: (a) policy design, planning and evaluation of practical action for equalization of opportunities, accessibility in particular; (b) advocacy and empowerment of civil society for broad human rights approaches; and (c) implementation of international norms and standards and beneficiary monitoring and evaluation.

69. The project is proposed to be implemented in three phases: (i) Assessment of issues and trends related to the

priority areas for equalization of opportunities and the associated international norms and standards; (ii) Prototyping, testing and evaluation of services and products to strengthen national capacities and institutional capabilities for equalization of opportunities for all; and (iii) Application, monitoring and evaluation of services and products to further equalization of opportunities for all in the twenty-first century, and providing inputs on results and obstacles encountered to the fourth quinquennial review and appraisal of the *World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons*.

70. These phases will be executed through the following sets of activities:

(a) Organizing and conducting in cooperation with selected alliance partners strategic assessments of issues and trends related to the priority areas for action to equalize opportunities at regional and sub-regional levels, as appropriate. Convening two consultative expert meetings to review and discuss findings in each priority area and identify requirements for action to build national capacities and institutional capabilities and to promote development networks. Meeting follow-up will be based upon available distance collaboration technologies;

(b) Compiling, organizing and publishing, as digital media to ensure accessibility for all, of information on norms and standards related to equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities. Available distance collaboration technologies will be used to consult, review and assess periodically norms and standards based content, to advise on acquisitions, and to submit recommendations on further action;

(c) Organizing and conducting, through appropriate use of accessible Internet technologies, of four regional and/or subregional training of trainers workshops on equalization of opportunities: issues in advocacy, monitoring and evaluation; meeting follow-up will be based upon available distance collaboration technologies;

(d) Advising on request and supporting the establishment of accessible information services in countries making appropriate use of resource materials posted on the "Persons with disabilities" portal on the World Wide Web.

(http:/www.un.org/esa/socdev/disabled.htm);

(e) Organizing three consultative expert meetings at regional and/or subregional levels on information

policies, structures and technologies for Internet accessibility;

(f) Organizing and conducting, through appropriate use of accessible Internet technologies, of four regional and/or subregional training of trainers workshops on environmental accessibility/universal design: issues in advocacy, monitoring and evaluation; meeting follow-up will be based upon available distance collaboration technologies;

(g) Organizing and conducting, through appropriate use of accessible Internet technologies, of four regional and/or subregional training of trainers workshops on sustainable livelihoods, social services and safety nets; issues in advocacy, monitoring and evaluation; meeting follow-up will be based upon available distance collaboration technologies;

(h) Organizing two interregional seminars on international norms and standards and equalization of opportunities for all, involving participation by experts in their individual capacity from all regions of both Governments and non-governmental organizations, and academic specialists in law, policy and evaluation with a view to submitting recommendations on the substantive aspects of formulating a new international instrument related to persons with disabilities;

(i) Publishing in accessible digital media the results of expert consultations, training of trainer workshops and compilation of international information materials on issues and trends concerning equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Resource requirements
(In US $)

Project H. Capacity-building and institutional development for equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

Organization of two 3-day expert group meetings (10-15 participants in each) at the interregional level to review and assess issues, trends and capacity building needs related to sustainable livelihood, social services and Internet accessibility (estimated at $40,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (a)).	80,000
Organization of three 3-day expert group meetings at regional and subregional levels (estimated at 15-20 participants each) to consider information policies, structures and technologies and formulate recommendations on the establishment and accessibility of information services (estimated at a cost of $50,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (e)).	150,000
Organization of two 3-day expert group meetings at the interregional level (10-15 participants in each) on international norms and standards related to disabilities (estimated at $40,000 per meeting). (In support of activity (h)).	80,000
Travel of Headquarters staff and other project personnel to monitor and evaluate field activities (10-15 missions). (In support of activities (a), (c), 9e), (f), (g) and (h)).	45,000
Contractual services for the compilation and publication of documentation ($26,000), pilot testing and evaluation of Internet-based distance collaboration to build national capacities ($24,000). (In support of activities (b) and (i)).	50,000
General operating expenses to cover the cost of communications, materials, supplies and other miscellaneous services. (In support of activities (a) to (i)).	15,660
Acquisition of computer equipment and software to establish a network of regional Internet-enabled focal points (four regions, at $10,000 each). (In support of activities (b), (d), (f) and (i)).	40,000
Organization of 12 5-day group training workshops: (a) four at the regional or subregional	480,000

levels on national norms and standards related to disabilities (at an estimated cost of $40,000 per workshop (at 10-15 participants)); (b) four at the regional and subregional levels on environmental access and persons with disabilities (at an estimated cost of $40,000 per workshop with 10-15 participants); and (c) four at the regional and subregional levels on sustainable livelihood and social services and safety needs at (an estimated cost of $40,000 per workshop with 10-15 participants). (In support of activity (c), (e), (f), (g) and (h))

Summary		
Ad hoc expert group meetings		310,000
Travel		45,000
Contractual services		50,000
General operating expenses		15,660
Equipment		40,000
Training		480,000
	Total	**940,660**

I. Enhancing the economic and social development policy capabilities in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)

Objectives

71. The objectives of the project are: (a) setting-up a network using communication technologies, professionals and experts in the field of economics and directly related disciplines; (b) building the network's technical capacities to maintain the level of common activities; (c) identification and organization of policy discussions focused on problems and challenges for the achievement of economic and social development goals in the Latin American and Caribbean region. (d) publishing and disseminating within and outside the network the results of the programmed events, particularly targeting peers, concerned professionals, academic communities, business.

Background

72. ECLAC is well recognised for its diagnosis and analysis of economic and social development trends in the Latin American and Caribbean region and is a major intellectual centre for the elaboration of strategic policy proposals addressing the regions major economic and social challenges. ECLAC has a critical mass of knowledge, which is used by numerous expert practitioners in the field of economics and the social sciences at large. It can make an important contribution in developing a network of links with the professional communities.

Relation to medium-term plan

73. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term-plan, under programme 17 (Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean), particularly subprogramme 17.4 (Macro-economic equilibria, investment and financing).

Expected accomplishments

74. The implementation of the project will enhance the ability of professionals, experts, policy makers, governments and research institutes, etc., to keep abreast of economic and social developments taking place

within and outside the region, and strengthen their analytical and applied skills in support of economic and social policy formulation at the national and local level. It will also increase sub-regional, regional and inter-regional economic cooperation by sharing commonly accepted economic policy instruments. These accomplishments will be evaluated by analysing feedback periodically collected through questionnaires from the beneficiaries of the network.

Duration

75. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

76. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Organization of a launch of the network through a high level seminar which will focus on critical problems caused by the volatility of the international financial markets.

(b) Organization of a seminar of the network to address exchange rate regimes and macro-economic management during the financial cycle.

(c) Organization of an expert meeting to examine the recent experiences in Latin America related to the net impact of the exchange rate regime on macroeconomic fluctuations. The meeting will seek redefinition of the concept "macroeconomic stability", in order to mitigate the effects of the cycle on the level of economic activity and on the level of employment. The meeting would also set up an advisory committee of the network. ECLAC will provide secretariat services for the network. The committee will be involved in decisions on the timing, contents, and procedures for the organization of major professional events of the network. (It is suggested that events be annual, with rotating venues at the participating centres).

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project I. Enhancing the economic and social development policy capabilities in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)

Expert services to provide specialized inputs on issues related to volatility of the international financial markets, exchange rate regimes and microeconomic management, and Microeconomic stability and the effects on the cycle of economic activities and development (estimated five workmonths at $9,000, including travel). (In support of activities (a) and (b)).	45,000
Expert services for data analysis, data collection processing and tabulation (estimated six workmonths at $9,000 per month). (In support of activities (a) and (b)).	54,000
Expert services for information technology, Website operation services and establishment and maintenance of the network (estimated six workmonths at $6,000 per month). (In support of activities (a), (b), and (c)).	36,000
Organization of three 3-day expert group meetings (about 10 participants each): (i) one to focus on critical problems caused by volatility of the international financial markets; (ii) the other to address the exchange rate regimes and microeconomic management; and (iii) to examine the recent experiences in Latin America related to the net impact on microeconomic fluctuations, (estimated at $20,000 per meeting). (In support of activities (a), (b), and (c)).	60,000
Organization of three 2-day expert group meetings on the timing, contents and procedures for the organisation of major professional events on the network. (Estimated at $8,000 per meeting). (In support of activities (a), (b) and (c)).	24,000
Travel of ECLAC staff to participate in the meetings and to monitor and evaluate activities. (In support of activities (a) and (c))	21,000
Contractual services relating to printing of reports for network events, printing and dissemination of standard monographs and the dissemination of electronic journals. (In support of activities (a) to (c)).	48,000

General operating expenses relating to supplies, materials and miscellaneous services. (In support of activities (a) to (c)).	8,440
Acquisition of computer equipment, including network related computer equipment, office automation equipment, including word processing, publishing and reproductive equipment. (In support of activities (a) to (c)).	29,000

Summary

Expert services	135,000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	84,000
Travel	21,000
Contractual services	48,000
General operating expenses	8,440
Equipment	29,000
Total	**325,440**

J. Development of a collaborative framework for integrated environmental assessments and reporting for West Africa (United Nations Environment Programme)

Objectives

77. The objective of the project is to strengthen national and regional institutional capacities in environmental data and information management through establishing an operational information network to support integrated environmental assessments and reporting in the West Africa region. The project will also strengthen institutional capacities for analysis and interpretation functions, facilitate greater harmonisation and comparability, and create a strong base for state of environment reporting process for the sub-region.

Background

78. The Environmental Information, Assessment and Early Warning Programme of UNEP has evolved to support national and regional efforts to better understand and analyze interactions between socio-economic variables on one hand, and the environment on the other, and to report on the status of the environment. An important component of this programme is the Environment and Natural Resources Information Networking (ENRIN) sub-programme, which is responsible for organizational networking and capacity building activities related to the management of data and information for environmental assessment and reporting. The ENRIN strategy facilitates the development of co-operative mechanisms in collaboration and consultations with governments, ECA, the World Conservation Union (IUCN), World Resources Institute (WRI), Network for Environment and Sustainable Development in Africa (NESDA), Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), Comité Permanent Inter-étatique de Lutte Contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS), and other regional and national partner organizations and institutions.

Relation to medium-term plan

79. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under programme 10 (Environment), subprogrammes 2 (Policy Development and Law), 3 (Policy Implementation) and 5 (Regional cooperation and representation).

Expected accomplishments

80. The implementation of the project will enhance the capacity of the institutions in West Africa for integrated environmental assessment and reporting through strengthened institutional capacities to generate and handle multi-sectoral environmental data and information through application of modern information technologies; strengthen operational environment information network infrastructures to facilitate delivery of information and products in support of sub-regional, regional and global assessments and reporting; provide a quantitative information base to support environmental analyses, modeling, forecasting, functional analyses (root causes, impact/effect, policy responses) of issues for use in national, sub-regional and regional assessment and reporting; and create an indicator-based, analogue and electronic "State of Environment Report" for the region that will feed into UNEP's Global Environment Outlook report series.

Duration

81. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

82. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Assessment of existing institutional data and information management capacities in the West Africa region. This activity will involve consultations through country visits to assess the mandated role of national planning institutions, information and data requirements; existing resources (human and technical) to meet the identified requirements; analytical capabilities, and the extent to which environmental data and information is integrated into planning at various levels; type and extent of environmental information and data generated by national institutions, agencies and programmes (format, scale and completeness of data); obstacles and constraints to planners and decision-makers accessing existing environmental data and information and identify mechanisms to overcome these; identify output forms and appropriate formats which would serve as direct inputs into the State of Environment reporting process; and recommend appropriate mechanisms to use for the desired integration into the State of Environment reporting process and the critical levels and paths necessary for optimum integration;

(b) Capacity-building and technical assistance,

including the pro.ision of hardware and software, to strengthen institutional capacities to collect, analyze, manage and generate multi-sectoral environmental data and information. Specific outputs will include: (i) regional training workshop in integrated environmental assessment and State of Environment reporting; (ii) training course in State of Environment database design including State of Environment spatial dimensions; (iii) regional workshop to gain consensus on approach, priority regional problems, and core data sets; (iv) technical backstopping missions to countries; (v) regional workshop for policy level officials on integrated assessment and reporting; (vi) provision of appropriate hardware and software for co-ordination unit and selected key national focal institutions;

(c) Design and development of the network's infrastructure, at national and sub-regional levels, to facilitate the delivery of data and information products. This will include: (i) on the basis of activity (a), design of the appropriate institutional infrastructure for the State of Environment reporting process (including specific roles and responsibilities with regard to all aspects of data management issues); (ii) consultations to review and gain consensus on the proposed institutional mechanisms; and (iii) formalisation and operationalisation of the approved institutional infrastructure;

(d) Establishment of the quantitative information base, including core data sets, spatial and temporal data and information, and production of a State-of-the-Environment Report for West Africa: (i) development of State of Environment metadatabases; (ii) compilation of national level data sets and where appropriate aggregation into required national levels; (iii) development of regional State of Environment databases; (iv) development of core indicators for the State of Environment; (v) undertaking of analyses to generate inputs required for the various chapters; (vi) prioritising of the related outreach activities.

Resource requirements:
(In US$)

Project J. Development of a collaborative framework for integrated environmental assessments and reporting for West Africa (United Nations Environment Programme)

General temporary assistance (estimated twelve workmonths of the project coordinator at $1,500 per month); (estimated twelve workmonths of database/GIS technical staff at $500 per month); and (estimated ten workmonths of support staff $400 per month). (In support of Activities (c) to (d)).	28,000
Expert services to undertake country visits to assess existing institutional capacities for data information management (estimated four workmonths at $3,000 per month). (In support of activity (a)).	12,000
Expert services to design a framework for developing an interactive State of environmental metadatabases (one and a half months). (In support of activities (c) and (d)).	4,200
Expert services to develop database aggregated at the regional level and to design indicators (four workmonths at $4,200 per month). (In support of activity (d)).	17,000
Expert services (estimated four months at $5,000 per month) to assist in providing regional training at the Workshops. (In support of activity (b)).	20,000
Organization of three 2-day expert group meetings (estimated at $12,000 per meeting with 10-15 participants each); (i) indicator and core data sets; (ii) metadatabases; and (iii) review on the Draft of the State of Environment (SoE) report. (In support of activity (b)).	36,000
Travel (about fourteen missions) to provide backstopping support to the national Initiatives in State of Environment (SoE) compilation. (In support of activity (d)).	17,000
Contractual services to be provided by fifteen regional institutions to assist in the Compilation of national State of Environment (SoE) inputs that will be integrated into the State of Environment (SoE) report (estimated at $10,000 per institution.). (In support of activity (d)).	150,000
Contractual services, to be provided by three regional institutions, to review the national inputs and integrate them into the regional perspectives as a basis for the various chapters of the report at a cost of	60,000

$20,000 per institution. (In support of activity (c)).

General operating expenses relating to communications, freight, rental, supplies, production of the report and miscellaneous services. (In support of activities (a) to (d)).	88,000
Acquisition of equipment for undertaking data integration and analysis, mapping, database development and metadatabase development. (In support of activity (b)).	60,000
Organization of three 4-day training workshops with thirty participants each on integrated environment assessment and reporting (estimated at $50,000 per workshop). (In support of activity (b)).	150,000

Summary

General temporary assistance	28,000
Expert services	53,200
Ad hoc expert group meetings	36,000
Travel	17,000
Contractual services	210,000
General operating expenses	88,000
Equipment	60,000
Grants, fellowships	150,000
Total	**642,200**

K. Sustainable waste management for African countries (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)

Objectives

83. The project's objective is to strengthen the regional capacity for solid waste management in Africa, through developing waste management programmes that involve waste minimisation and informal sector micro-enterprises which link income generation to environmental protection.

Background

84. In both developed and developing countries, too little attention has been paid to the management of municipal solid wastes. Since 1995, UNECA, UNEP and UNCHS (Habitat) have been developing a common position towards forging a sustainable waste management policy and strategy in Africa. This current proposal is a collaborative effort of these three UN programmes

85. Chapter 21 of Agenda 21 on "Solid Waste Management and Sewage Related Issues" offers an integrated strategy for waste management which addresses both formal and informal sectors and includes the following areas: (a) minimisation of waste; (b) promotion of waste recycling and reuse; (c) increasing service coverage; and (d) ensuring environmentally sound disposal.

86. The situation with respect to waste management in Africa is particularly severe. Regulation of the private sector is limited and illegal dumping of domestic and industrial waste is a common practice.

Relation to medium-term plan

87. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of programme 11 (Human Settlements), the medium-term plan under Subprogramme 11.2. Sustainable Urban Development.

Expected accomplishments

88. The project implementation will contribute to the development of a regional capacity for solid waste management on the African Continent. At the local level, it will seek to develop waste management

programmes that include concepts such as waste minimisation, recycling, efficient privatisation of services and regulation, an the development of informal sector micro-enterprises that link income generation for the urban poor to environmental protection. The end of project situation will result in: improved operational efficiency for local authorities; reduced environmental degradation with regards to waste disposal; improved conservation of natural resources through promotion of recycling; enhanced income-earning opportunities for the urban poor; and increased capacity at the local level. In the longer term, the proposal will promote the development of indigenous and appropriate technologies and holistic management approaches in the waste management sector.

Duration

89. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

90. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Assessment of waste management sector needs in three selected African cities and to develop detailed needs assessment in the sector and an action plan;

(b) Capacity-building workshops and exchange visits to promote new approaches to waste management, including waste management strategies and promotion of informal sector micro-enterprises;

(c) Preparing development of awareness creation audio-visual material *"toolkits"* for policy makers and local elected officials to promote new approaches to sustainable waste management;

(d) Launching a pilot demonstration of good practices in waste management in three cities to illustrate sustainable approaches. This activity will be assessed for replication on a wider scale;

(e) Conducting a regional meeting on developing a regional strategy for solid waste management in Africa to assess the impacts of new approaches and develop a regional strategy for waste management.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project K. Sustainable waste management for African countries (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)

Consultants services (estimated six workmonths at $5,000 per month) to undertake three city-level studies, particularly to review existing information and collect additional information as necessary to develop a detailed needs assessment in the sector and develop action plans. (In support of activity (a)).	30,000
Expert services (regional and international) for field studies and rapid appraisal (five workmonths, international expert at $8,000 per month). (In support of activity (a)).	40,000
Expert services (estimated two workmonths at $5,000 per month). (In support of activity (e)).	10,000
Organization of a regional ad hoc expert 3-day meeting for strategy development for 50 policy makers (estimated at $68,000). (In support of activity (e)).	68,000
Contractual services related to the establishment of primary collection and recycling facilities through micro-enterprises. (In support of activities (b), (c) and (d)).	90,000
Contractual services to develop management information system. (In support of activities (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e)).	112,000
Contractual services for the development of awareness creation "toolkits" including video, publicity materials and city campaigns to promote effective waste management. (three sub-contracts at $10,000 each). (In support of activity (c)).	30,000
Organization of three 4-day capacity-building workshops (of 10-15 participants each) in three cities to develop new approaches to waste management for local-authority managers (estimated at $20,000 each per workshop). (In support of activity (b)).	60,000
Three national workshops (at $20,000 and with 15 participants each) to review good practices in	60,000

waste management which will focus on segregation at source, improved collection systems, recycling and reuse and sanitary disposal, using documented experience of UNCHS from past projects in three cities. (In support of activity (d))

Summary

Expert services	80,000
Ad hoc expert group meetings	68,000
Contractual services	232,000
Training	120,000
Total	**500,000**

L. Urban pollution of superficial and groundwater aquifers in Africa (United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT)/ Economic Commission for Africa)

Objectives

91. The objective of the project is to contribute in establishing a network which will develop methodologies for optimal monitoring of the contamination of superficial and groundwater aquifers in African residential areas, to serve as early earning and trend detection systems for possible water supply contamination. The project's specific tasks will include: (a) assessment of groundwater vulnerability; (b) identification of hot spots and major threats on superficial and groundwater aquifers in African residential areas; (c) development of policy options for better safeguarding superficial and groundwater aquifers in African residential areas, including pollution and health problems mitigation. (d) establishment of an early warning network for possible water supply contamination; (e) hydrogeological modelling of groundwater vulnerability in African residential areas; and (f) Capacity-building.

Background

92. Most of the water supply systems in African mega-cities are based on groundwater. Unplanned urban expansion and rapid growth in urban areas have put enormous pressure on this natural resource, which becomes polluted from excessive use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides as well as effluents from leaky sewerage systems, septic tanks, leaky fuel tanks, factories or pollutants from solid waste (garbage) dumps.

93. The provision of adequate supplies of water to industry, agriculture and urban residents especially the urban poor, is becoming one of the biggest challenges facing governments and local authorities.

94. Because of groundwater flow and the lack of remedying severe pollution, polluted urban groundwater will spread over large areas in the direction of the flow,

even if the contaminant emanate only from discrete point locations.

95. In the near future, it will be practically impossible to clean up urban aquifers once they became polluted over a large area. Consequently, in long-term, polluted urban groundwater will lead to acute shortage and requires extensive interim systems. It will place public health at risk through exposure to a variety of substances, such as pathogens, carcinogens and nitrates. Nutrient-enriched groundwater discharging to lakes and reservoirs, will induce algae blooms and other symptoms of eutrophication. Trace metals and organic contaminants may enter the food chain, building up toxic level.

96. The project has been jointly developed by UNEP and UNESCO /International Hydrological Programme (IHP5). The proposed training activities will be undertaken jointly by UNEP with UNESCO/IHP (Regional Office in Africa based in Nairobi), as the implementing agency. The project will develop value-added products to support the UNFIP/Habitat project on "Water for African Cities" presently focused on 7 major African cities. Many activities of the project will be implemented in close cooperation with ECA.

Expected accomplishments

97. The project's implementation will result in the establishment of sub-regional task forces comprising relevant experts, to undertake various activities on the vulnerability of groundwater aquifers; facilitate technological cooperation among countries in the area; and lead to the establishment of regional network to monitor urban groundwater pollution in West Africa; create monitoring framework at the national level complemented by a regional database; further knowledge of physical and chemical properties of surface and groundwater; minimise existing or potential contamination at the source; develop attitudes and tools reducing the adverse effects of human activities in the residential areas; facilitate the use of models on groundwater vulnerability in African residential areas; strengthen capacity on designing vulnerability maps.

Duration

98. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

99. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Assessment of groundwater vulnerability will include: one regional meeting to launch fieldworks in West African countries; Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Guinea; selection of the survey area (refer to the defined strategy action); and acquisition of software, hardware, aerial photo, topographic maps, and chemical products, data collection, hydrogeological data, hydrochemical data, isotope data, contamination data and type and location of potential contamination sources, remote sensing meteorological data and hydrological data (river level, discharges);

(b) Identification of hot spots and major threats on superficial groundwater aquifers in African residential areas which will include: sampling of water and chemical analysis of samples (groundwater from boreholes, river/ reservoirs/ lakes) – Isotope analysis; filed survey, gauging and testing operation, monitor wells and boreholes; aerial photo and remote sensing survey; scanning and digitisation of cartographic map – planning and constructing a vulnerability map (using of existing software or using a Geographical Information System (GIS); and vulnerability map design;

(c) Development of policy options for better safeguarding superficial and groundwater aquifers in residential areas which will include: contamination assessment to identify areas susceptible to contamination and to indicate the relative degree of concern and effort needed; and determination of areas which may have groundwater problems;

(d) Establishment of an early warning network for possible water supply contamination which will include: the organization of one seminar on educating and informing planners, decision-makers about groundwater protection and contamination; and one seminar on creating public awareness about environmental protection;

(e) Hydrogeological modelling on groundwater vulnerability in African residential areas which will include: the use of and test of existing models and their adaptation; and training on the use of chosen models.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project L. Combating urban pollution of superficial and groundwater aquifers in Africa (United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation/Habitat/Economic Commission for Africa)

General temporary assistance to coordinate the implementation of project activities and to provide backstopping (estimated five workmonths at $3,000 per month). (In support of activities (a) to (e)).	15,000
Organization of one expert group meeting on the contamination of superficial and groundwater aquifers in Africa (10 participants). (In support of activity (a)).	25,000
Organization of one expert group meeting to define policy options for better safeguarding superficial and groundwater aquifers in residential areas (10 participants). (In support of activity (c)).	25,000
Contractual services to collect hydrogeological data, hydrochemical data, and use of remote sensing, meteorological data, hydrological data (8 contracts, estimated at $5,000 each). (In support of activity (b)).	40,000
Contractual services to undertake sampling and field survey including the identification of the geometric, hydraulic and physio-chemical characteristic of the aquifers in the area of study, sampling campaigns for chemical and isotopic analysis and groundwater level measurement. (In support of activity (b)).	70,000
Contractual services relating to printing and dissemination of the final report. (In support of activities (a) to (e)).	5,000
Acquisition of computer equipment (laser printer, communication interface/software, network installation-modem, communication software); and field equipment (data loggers, water level meter, water sampler, conductivimeter, pH meter, tensiometers, etc..); and hydrological equipment (bottles, filters, sensors). (In support of activity (d) and (e)).	40,000
Organization of one workshop on issues relating to the identification of recharge areas and the	30,000

estimation of recharge as well as on the use of new softwares (groundwater flow and contaminant transport, modeling, visualization and animation of subsurface data and groundwater modeling results). (20 participants). (In support of activity (b)).

Summary

General temporary assistance		15,000
Ad hoc expert group meeting		50,000
Contractual services		115,000
Equipment		40,000
Grants, fellowships		30,000
	Total	**250,000**

M. Capacity-building and policy networking for sustainable resource-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development/United Nations University)

Objectives

100. The project's objective is to enhance the capacity of developing countries, especially those dependent on non-renewable or depleteable natural resources, to devise and sustain a balanced and viable development path over the longer term, with an emphasis on the application of integrated economic, environmental and social policies to the natural resource sector. This will be achieved by building and strengthening a broad-based, policy oriented network of academic and development expertise.

Background

101. Relatively few developing countries have successfully used their tradable natural resource sector (timber, oil and gas, and minerals) to achieve diversified growth and sustainable development. Indeed, a growing number of so-called "resource-rich" countries are lagging behind resource-deficient countries in the economic and social sphere, and have accumulated a substantial human capacity deficit. Work undertaken recently in UNCTAD and UNU/WIDER has shown that the development path for "resource-rich" countries can be equally difficult and possibly more complex than for "resource-poor" countries. The situation is particularly complex -- and urgent – for countries dependent on the exploitation of non-renewable or depleteable resources. In the long-term context of sustainable development, the major policy challenge for natural resource economies is to exploit their natural capital and associated resource rents in an environmentally sustainable manner in order to enhance human and institutional capacities. In this way, these countries will achieve the transition from rent-based to knowledge-based development, engage more effectively in the process of globalization and be better placed to address the development of other sectors of their economies.

Relation to medium-term plan

102. The project is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under Programme 9, (Trade and development), Subprogramme 9.3, international trade in goods and services and commodities.

Expected accomplishments

103. The project will strengthen the capacity of natural resource dependent developing country governments, at the national and local level, to formulate sound policies for sustainable resource-based development and to optimize the use of inputs and expertise from a variety of resource practitioners and other stakeholders. The project will create/strengthen sustainable networking mechanisms and innovative institutional arrangements, supported by modern information and communications technology. Increased access to knowledge by stakeholders, researchers and policy markers, and to each other's experiences, through North-South and South-South partnerships, will be facilitated. These networking arrangements will involve central and local governments, academia, public and private research centers. At the local level, they will improve skills and support a participatory framework for resource development. The attainment of these accomplishments in the participating developing countries will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria: (a) effective application of the project's outputs including study-based training modules and policy guidelines; (b) qualitative/quantitative feedback from both the network members and output users with regard to acquired knowledge; (c) establishment of Internet nodes (Websites) and increased electronic exchanges among the network's members; and (d) preparation of educational and training packages. A questionnaire-based survey will be carried out to supplement the feedback.

Duration

104. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2002.

Activities

105. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Organization of an initial workshop/partner forum to identify participating institutions capable of acting as network nodes at the country level with access to policy makers and in a position to disseminate best policies and practices for sustainable resource-based

development. UNU will identify participating academies and UNCTAD/DESA participating government institutions;

(b) Launching a policy research network linked to the UN (UNCTAD, DESA, UNU). To this end, discussion papers and case studies (macro/micro economics, social, public administration and institutional issues) will be prepared by selected developing countries' institutions and with the participation of renowned academics, public and private sector institutes/organization from natural resources dependent countries. Peer review will be provided by UNCTAD, DESA and UNU on the basis of their respective field of competence;

(c) Design and establishment of networking arrangements to enhance existing UN Websites dedicated to resource-based development (in UNCTAD, DESA, UNU, regional commissions) for use by the network members, in order to promote information exchange/sharing, interactive research, and improve the quality, efficiency, and timeliness of the network outputs. UNCTAD will take the lead in this activity;

(d) Support to selected regional institutions, by way of learning and training materials and technical expertise, to enhance multi-disciplinary work on resource-based development and improve networking arrangements with country-level policy makers and other stakeholders;

(e) Preparation of learning and training materials, including material for Internet-based education, and in hard copies, and organize workshops for the purpose of training resource persons; jointly by the three responsible entities;

(f) Preparation of a terminal report including results of questionnaire for stocktaking, outputs promotion and network sustainabililty and growth, with recommendations regarding potential downstream users (Intergovernmental organizations, donors, private sector,) and follow-up.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project M. Capacity-building and policy networking for sustainable resource-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development/United Nations University)

Expert services for the preparation of five case studies/by regional/national experts (estimated at $5,000 per case study). (In support of activity (b)).	25,000
Expert services of international expertise (estimated two workmonths at $10,000 including travel) to provide substantive support for the development of training programmes. (In support of activity (e)).	20,000
Organization of the Partner Forum (Ad hoc expert group meeting) to develop plan of action and partner identification (20 participants). (In support of activity (a)).	48,000
Contractual services (estimated at 26 workmonths) for the provision of learning and training material and fellowships for trainers. (In support of activity (e)).	130,000
Contractual services to undertake the need assessment assistance in information technology through short-term international/regional expertise to establish communication linkages (need assessment) maintenance requirement and training . (In support of activities (c) and (d)).	30,000
Contractual services for editing, printing and dissemination of the report. (In support of activity (f)).	15,000
Contractual services related to the production of training material and case studies as CD-ROMS and video products. (In support of activity (e)).	50,000
Acquisition of equipment such as network servers, power supplies, Network components and Internet connectivity hardware, Desktop hardware components, Desktop software licenses, Website design and enhancement, etc..	180,000

Summary

Consultants		45,000
Ad hoc expert group meetings		48,000
Contractual services		225,000
Equipment		180,000
	Total	**498,000**

N. Enhancing the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition for effective integration in the Multilateral Trading System (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

106. The project is designed to (i) assist officials from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in elaborating strategies and tactics for conducting bilateral/multilateral negotiations in the WTO accession process; (ii) strengthen their knowledge of multilateral trade rules and disciplines – in both goods and services – and negotiation techniques and tactics in order to improve their negotiating capacity; (iii) provide advice in trade policy formulation, particularly relating to the WTO accession and trade policies of their main trading partners; (iv) improve technical and information capacities of the Governments of developing countries and countries in transition to conduct multilateral trade negotiations; (v) assist Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to acquire a better understanding of the overall impact of the WTO Agreements on their respective economies; (vi) facilitate appropriate policy responses for adjusting to the WTO Agreements, as well as (vii) take maximum advantage of the opportunities created by the multilateral trading system.

Background

107. The General Assembly emphasized the importance of the strengthening of, and the attainment of greater universality by, the international trading system and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) of developing countries and countries with economies in transition. In this context, the General Assembly also emphasized the necessity for the UNCTAD and the WTO to provide technical assistance, within their mandate, thereby contributing to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system (General Assembly Resolution 53/170, para.15). Accession to the WTO is an unprecedently complex process, which constitutes a major challenge for more than 30 developing countries, including seven least developed countries, and the countries with economies in

transition. At UNCTAD IX, member States agreed that UNCTAD should focus on assisting countries in the process of accession to the WTO in order to achieve their effective integration into the multilateral trading system. The project would support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to pursue policies aimed at sustainable economic development and effective integration into the international trading system, especially through accession to the WTO on balanced terms.

Relation to medium-term plan

108. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under programme 9 (Trade and development), subprogramme 9.3 (International trade in goods and services and commodities).

Expected accomplishments

109. The following accomplishments are expected to be achieved by the implementation of the project:

(a) The capacity of government officials to understand WTO requirements and the mechanisms of the WTO and in particular of the accession negotiations, will have been enhanced;

(b) Information and analyses necessary for considering strategies for accession negotiations and preparation for accession-related documents as regards both goods and services, will have been made available to the government;

(c) Infrastructures, supportive services

(d) and the capacity to absorb expert advice will have been strengthened;

(e) Governments and the private sector will have been provided with necessary analysis on new market access conditions to enable them to identify immediate and potential trading opportunities;

(f) Governments will have been able to develop national expertise pertaining to the sectoral impacts of the relevant WTO Agreements, to enable them to review current and future policies in line with the WTO rules and disciplines;

(g) Governments will have been able to better identify trade policy options for deriving advantages, coping with the challenges of the international trading framework and negotiating accession to the WTO in an

effective manner.

Duration

110. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

111. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Human and institutional capacity-building in the WTO acceding countries related to (i) development of national research and analytical expertise in acceding countries; (ii) organization of training programmes; (iii) undertaking study tours, national/regional workshops and seminars for trade officials, business and academic communities in acceding developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(b) Mobilisation of international experts services to undertake sectoral analyses and policy advice on trade-related legislation, customs tariffs services sectors, industrial and agricultural subsidies, as well as on the consistency of trade regimes of acceding countries with the WTO rules and disciplines and relevant trade policy and legislation of WTO members;

(c) Strengthening logistical and technical bases of acceding Governments to pursue effective WTO accession and related trade negotiations by assisting in (i) translation and publication of WTO legal texts in national languages; (ii) establishing electronic databases on trade policy and WTO-related matters; (iii) publication of various reports and studies; and (iv) procurement of modern equipment and supplies.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project N. Enhancing the capacity of developing countries and countries in transition for effective integration in the multilateral trading system (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

General temporary assistance (estimated 24 workmonths at $7,500 per month) to support the organization and backstopping of training programmes and regional workshops. (In support of activity (a)).	180,000
Expert services (estimated 14 workmonths at $10,000 per month) to support the development in national research and analytical capabilities of countries. (In support of activity (a)(i)).	140,000
Expert services (estimated 19 workmonths at $10,000 per month) to undertake sectoral analyses and policy advice on trade-related legislation, customs tariffs, service sectors, industrial and agricultural subsidies. (In support of activity b)).	190,000
Travel of staff, consultants and advisers to organize study tours, national/regional workshops and seminars. (In support of activity (a) (iii)).	70,000
Travel of UNCTAD staff (about 15 missions) to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the project. (In support activities (a) and (b)).	70,000
Contractual services related to external translation, dissemination and printing of the material. (In support of activity (c)).	70,000
Acquisition of computer equipment. (In support of activities (a) to (c)).	30,000
General operating expenses for the organisation of national and regional seminars in the field. (In support of activity (a) (i) and (a) (ii).	10,000
Study tours, fellowships and group training. (In support of activity (a) (iii).	140,000

Summary

General temporary assistance	180,000
Consultants	330,000
Travel	140,000
Contractual services	70,000
General operating expenses	10,000
Equipment	30,000
Grants, felowships	140,000
Total	**900,000**

O. Capacity-building for debt sustainability analysis (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

112. The project's objective is to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, including least developed countries and also countries with economies in transition, to analyse their debts.

Background

113. The international community has given special attention to the debt problems of developing countries. More recently, the General Assembly in its resolution 53/175 of 1998, in addition to adopting a series of decisions and recommendations aimed at the lasting solution to the debt problems, also gave particular attention to capacity-building in developing countries.

114. UNCTAD's long-standing interest in the issue of debt of developing countries goes back to the early 70s. This led inter alia, to the establishment of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (DFMAS) Programme which has become one of the leading providers of technical assistance services in the area of debt management. At *UNCTAD IX*, at Midrand in 1996, governments agreed that "the examination of development challengers will integrate the important development lessons learnt about debt management from UNCTAD's work in this area" and that UNCTAD should provide continued support for debt management".

115. The implementation of the project will lead to the installation and effective use of the Debt Sustainability Model (DSM) in participating countries. The DSM is specialised software originally developed by the World Bank as an in-house modelling instrument to assist in formulating debt-restructuring strategies that are sustainable and consistent with long-term macro-economic policies. To this end, the software can analyse the impact of a set of restructuring options on short-term cash flows, long-term cost of borrowing, and the overall indebtedness of a country. It provides the tools needed to input country data, project and analyse results of various debt relief options, report results and link to other debt management systems.

116. At the end of 1998, DMFAS Programme, which for many years has a Joint Programme on Debt Management with the World Bank, established a new Partnership with the latter in order to distribute an updated version of the DSM (DSM+) for use in individual countries.

117. The central operation of the DMFAS Programme, in addition to the UN regular budget, relies to a large extent on extra-budgetary resources provided by a group of bilateral donors. The present project proposal will be complementary, but separate from on-going activities.

Relation to medium-term plan

118. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under programme 9 (Trade and development), subprogramme 9.1 (Globalisation and development).

Expected accomplishments

119. The implementation of the project will:

(a) lead to the installation and effective use of a specialised software tool in debt offices in developing countries and assist analysts and debt managers in debt analysis;

(b) enhance the ability of analysts and debt managers to effectively contribute to the decision-making process with regard to the management of the external liabilities;

(c) increase the awareness of policy makers in developing countries and countries with economies in transition with regard to the links between debt strategy and macro-economic policy-making.

Duration

120. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

121. Capacity building for debt analysis will require a mix of activities and resources to be delivered through interregional, regional and country projects. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Further development and maintenance of the DSM+, in close collaboration with the World Bank;

(b) Design of training curriculum and preparation of training material;

(c) Translation of DSM+ and supporting documentation/training material in French and Spanish; and

(d) Installation and training of DSM+ on DMFAS sites in close coordination with country and (sub) regional projects.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project O. Capacity-building for debt sustainability analysis (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Travel of staff and technical advisers to the field (20-25 missions). (In support of activities (a), (b), and (d)).	100,000
Contractual services to develop and maintain the Debt Sustainability Model to produce the training material (estimated 25 workmonths at $8,000 per month). (In support of activities (a) and (b)).	200,000
Contractual services to install the Debt Sustainability Model and the Debt Management Financial Analysis System in the field and train users (estimated 10 workmonths, including travel, at $10,000 per month). (In support of activity (d)).	100,000
Organization of four 4-day training workshops (10-15 participants each, estimated at $25,000 per workshop). (In support of activity (b)).	100,000

Summary

Travel	100,000
Contractual services	300,000
Grants, fellowships	100,000
Total	**500,000**

P. Capacity building for diversification and commodity-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Objectives

122. The project's objectives are: (i) to promote the horizontal, vertical and geographical diversification of production and trade structures; (ii) to improve government's capacities to formulate focused, effective and sequenced policies in this respect; (iii) to increase the competence of enterprises in adapting their business strategies and supplies to the Post-Uruguay Round trading framework; and (iv) to strengthen positive linkages between the commodity sector and the rest of the economy.

Background

123. The international community has recognised, for example in General Assembly resolution 53/174, that horizontal and vertical diversification by commodity dependent developing countries is a priority for their development and invited UNCTAD to provide assistance to developing countries in this respect. Contributing to vertical and horizontal diversification of commodity dependent countries was also specified at UNCTAD IX as one of the areas of focus for UNCTAD's technical assistance. World trade is rapidly growing for high value commodities, mostly foodstuffs that could easily be supplied by these countries if they had the processing capacity and expertize. Industrialised countries and a small number of developing countries have been generally successful in exploiting these dynamic and lucrative markets, while the others, particularly LDCs and African countries, have been left behind. The enterprise sector has been unable to adapt itself to the liberalised and more exigent trading environment, and its needs for support are not effectively prioritised. Government policies also need to be reviewed in the current trading framework, and support that could be provided with the meagre resources of the governments need to be selective and focused. The civil society and institutions also have a crucial facilitating role in the diversification process.

Relation to medium-term plan

124. The proposal is within the scope and priorities of the medium-term plan, under programme 9 (Trade and development), subprogramme 9.3 (International trade in goods and services, and commodities).

Expected accomplishments

125. The implementation of the project will contribute to: (a) enabling enterprises in commodity dependent countries to adapt their export diversification strategies and business practices to modern market exigencies, e.g., by adopting appropriate communication, information, and partnership channels, identifying opportunities for niche products and processed items, and providing supplies that meet specific market requirements; (b) enabling enterprises to build effective partnerships with banks and other finance providers for using structured commodity finance and modern risk management instruments, as well as to prioritise and communicate their needs to governments; (c) enabling governments to design and implement focused and sequenced policies and measures that deal with the most important bottlenecks experienced by their enterprises, and that facilitate, wherever possible, the provision of necessary support services by the enterprise sector; (d) increasing the effectiveness of local institutions and civil society in ensuring that the more disadvantaged segments of the population are involved in the diversification process with a view to reducing poverty; and (e) increasing food self-sufficiency, besides export diversification, in net food importing developing countries. It is also expected that the project will indirectly contribute to increasing trade—driven direct investment, South-South trade, and South-South technical cooperation.

Duration

126. The anticipated duration of the project is 2000-2001.

Activities

127. The following activities will be carried out:

(a) Preparation of policy oriented studies on export diversification strategies of governments and enterprises, and on development implications of diversification, to provide the conceptual framework for the exchange of experiences and capacity-building;

(b) Organization of three regional workshops for enterprises and government officials, focusing on export diversification strategies of governments and enterprises, and on development implications of diversification;

(c) Development of training materials, including

sectoral profiles and operational guidelines, covering world commodity chains and local processing opportunities, information and cooperation channels, market exigencies, the significance of market entry barriers, and how these barriers can be overcome, possibilities for inter-firm and inter-country cooperation, how to increase retained value added from expanded production and international trade, and the use of structured commodity finance and risk management instruments;

(d) Advisory and technical assistance to governments and enterprises in identifying diversification opportunities and competitive advantages, specifying the priority areas of governmental and international assistance for exploiting opportunities, enhancing local linkages around natural resource based activities and agro-industry, structuring of appropriate financing packages, and ensuring a wide distribution of economic and social benefits of diversification among entrepreneurs, farmers and workers;

(e) Organization of ten national workshops bringing together the government, the enterprise sector, civil society and relevant international organizations to make proposals on enterprise strategies as well as the most efficient and cost effective government policies and measures, including those aimed at improving physical and human capacities, to promote diversification, and to ensure that the disadvantaged segments of the society benefit from diversification, taking into account administrative requirements, sustainability concerns, and the social and human context.

Resource requirements
(In US$)

Project P. Capacity-building for diversification and commodity-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

Expert services (estimated at 28 workmonths at $8,000 per month) to prepare policy-oriented studies on export diversification, including its development implications. (In support of activity (a)).	$224,000
Expert services (estimated at four workmonths at $7,500 per month). (In support of activity (b)).	30,000
Expert services to conduct and substantively backstop the seminars estimated at $8,000 per month . (In support of activity (e)).	80,000
Expert services (10 workmonths at $9,000 per month) to undertake advisory and technical assistance missions to Member States to identify diversification opportunities and competitive advantages of individual countries and subregions. (In support of activity (d)).	90,000
Travel of UNCTAD staff and experts for monitoring and evaluation of activities at the national level (estimated at $43,000 per year, to cover 10-12 missions per year). (In support of activities (b), (d), and (e)).	86,000
Travel of staff to organize and support the workshops. (In support of activity (b)).	40,000
Contractual services to develop training materials for the workshops and to substantively and organizationally backstop these training activities. (In support of activity c)).	150,000
Contractual services to translate and print materials. (In support of activity (e)).	20,000
General operating expenses such as rental of training space and photocopying, etc. (In support of activity (e)).	10,000
Acquisition and renting of equipment to support training activities. (In support of activity (e)).	20,000

Organization of three workshops (at $50,000 per workshop, with an average of 30-35 Participants per workshop). (In support of activity (b)).		150,000

Summary

Consultants		424,000
Travel of staff		126,000
Contractual services		170,000
General operating expenses		10,000
Equipment		20,000
Grants, fellowships		150,000
	Total	**900,000**

Annex

List of projects proposed to be funded for the development account in the biennium 2000-2001

(United States dollars)

	Project title	Amount
A.	Capacity-building in strategic planning and management of natural resources in Asia and the Pacific (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)	738,000
B.	Training programme on addiction rehabilitation and drug prevention in the workplace for Asia and the Pacific (United Nations International Drug Control Programme)	549,700
C.	Capacity-building to improve water management and accelerate investments in the water sector (Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Regional Commissions)	1,650,000
D.	Capacity-building for decision-making in sustainable development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	300,000
E.	Capacity-building machinery related to promoting gender equality in the African countries (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	1,241,000
F.	Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia (Economic Commission for Europe and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)	1,750,000
G.	Strengthening regional capacities for statistical development (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	1,500,000
H.	Capacity-building and institutional development for equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)	940,660
I.	Enhancing the economic and social development policy capabilities in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (Economic Commission for Latin America and the	325,440

	Project title	Amount
	Caribbean)	
J	Development of a collaborative framework for integrated environmental assessments and reporting for West Africa (United Nations Environment Programme)	642,200
K	Sustainable waste management for African countries (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements)	500,000
L	Combatting urban pollution of superficial and groundwater aquifers in Africa (United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/Habitat/Economic Commission for Africa)	250,000
M	Capacity-building and policy networking for sustainable resource-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development/United Nations University)	498,000
N	Enhancing the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition for effective integration in the Multilateral Trading System (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	900,000
O	Capacity-building for debt sustainability analysis (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	500,000
P	Capacity-building for diversification and commodity-based development (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)	900,000
	Total	**13,185,000**